No. 44 - Sixth Street. N.Y.

Monday Even.

My dear friend -

Your kind, & welcome letter reached me two hours since, with its enclosure, which I return herein, as desired. I have taken (very comfortable) Chambers, as above, & have concluded to wait, some months at any rate, until I see what turn European affairs are likely to take - it being always possible, in the meantime, that something in the bread-&-cheese way may turn up, tho' business of all kinds is very dull & unpromising here, just now - I cannot promise myself the pleasure of visiting you this Spring, however much rejoiced I should have been to have witnessed the consummation of your happiness - I must, therefore, even trust to your "mollifying so far as to send me a set of your Kooskooskys, when you have distributed them" - And now to do some little towards deserving your good will in the matter, I will just call your attention to what I have noticed, as probably new -

Cynoptera - but there is no ripe fruit.

Chrysopsis - A little thing, which, (judging from your description in the Pl.) must have very much the habit of Stenotus, & in fact appears to come quite near to S. multicaulis, Nutt. tho' wanting the subtending bract of that species - how, this plant of Nuttall's has, it seems, a "ferruginous" pappus, of about 2 series of unequal bristles, & I am strongly inclined to suspect that it is also a Chrysopsis, & closely allied to (or even the same as ?) this Kooskooskey fellow, which is, however, a good Chrysopsis with the outer pappus decidedly squamellate-setose, tho' very small - I have no ripe achenia, the flowers being young. It would leave Stenotus rather better to have the pappus always bright white.

Heliopsideæ! A queer § to me very interesting plant, with the foliage of Balsamorhiza, & the inflorescence of Heliopsis but with villous achenia! Now, you give under Heliopsis a §1. Euheliopsis, DC. with "achenia smooth" from which I infer that he may have other §§ with hirsute achen. & to which this plant might belong - Unfortunately, my Vol. V. of DC. was burnt, & I learn from Brownne that no one in N.Y. has a Copy! I hope to hear from you, about it -

Scorzonella (§. Philophora - T. & Gr. not. fide Hook. in Jour. Bot. Lyyi's plants.) a different species from Hooker's S. nutans, Ley. (which by the way is a bad name, for this plant has also nodding flowers) - The plumose bristles to the scales of the pappus are 20 in number, & do not seem to be less in my piece of the Leyer plant - I have no other Scorzonella, but your char.[2] in the Fl. limits the number of scales to 10, & unless you attach importance to the beak of Calais enveloping the corolla, at maturity, it differs in little else than the number of pappus Scales (5) from Scorzonella - It wd. be a question, therefore, if the habit of these species of Stilophora be different from the true Scorzonellæ whether they also ought not to form a genus distinguished by the many-scaled, plumose-setose pappus -

Calais - A species near to C. Douglasii, but different, in the exterior scales of the involucre, & in other matters - I propose to Torr. to call this C. Oregana, as the others are Californian, but, doubtless, he will submit the matter to you, as do I, in most lowly-wise -

And now, tho' "Beggars must not be chusers" I wd. ask you to send me as full a set as you can of Leguminosæ (the more named species, the better, especially of Astragalus & Lupinus) - By the way, you will note, that his Thermopsis has blue, or purple flowers!

Penstemon - Castilleja - Gilia & its allies, Eriogonum, & Umbelliferæ - I have got a good number of the last, but Torrey's set has no fruit - I worked hard at them, & made them out pretty well to my satisfaction, notwithstanding - The Scrophulariaceæ I can do nothing with, for want of books, & the genera Penstemon & Castilleja, I think hard to make out -

I scarcely know what to say, my dear Gray, to your proposal of sending me a Copy of your Gen. ill. - I needed no such "token of friendship from the author" - On which I have abiding reliance, & abundant Testimonials - Still, tho' I hardly know how to allow you thus to overwhelm me with your kindness, yet I should find it quite impossible to repudiate the valuable gift, from your friendly hand, & I therefore, receive it, frankly, & with a high and grateful satisfaction - I note, with annoyance, what you say about Emerson, but as to our friend Holton's Article (judging from what I saw) I doubt if Bowen's review, or your work, would have gained much from its insertion - As to a notice of the Genera illust. I shd. be pleased to think I could do the subject justice - However, I shall revolve the matter in my mind, as soon as I see the work in print - and - we will correspond further on the subject, unless, in the meantime, Torrey, or some other "big" man shall do himself the honour of being your reviewer - What awful times in Europe! Surely the old world is again about to be deluged in blood! Can it be that France & Italy are sufficiently advanced (en masse) to govern themselves, as Republics? I greatly fear not -

My kindest love to dear Jane, & may the blessing of God rest upon you both.

Tuesday Morng 25th Apl. – It occurs to me to add to my br. that as you may want your Jour. Bot: I will return the 3 Nos. in a few days – either thro' A. Gray, or by a Hams' Exp. – I am copying out all the new matter into my (interleaved) Copy of Fl. Bor. Am. which is thus rendd much more valuable I am nearly thro' with the Job – By the bye, when you write Hooker this hint respecting the conclusion of this paper. "Tell him" – it is proved already that he is a false knave, & it will go nigh to be thought so shortly" unless he finishes the Enum. of Geyer's plants –

Prof. A. Gray
Harvard
Cambridge
Massachusetts.

Amongst Torrey's Rocky Mts is a panicle, & single (detached) leaf of Cyclachæna – The seeds are ripe, & you will doubtless find the same for yourself (& me?) But what I wish to say is this – If you go to some sequestered margin of Fresh pond (or one of your Berae lick ditches?) I believe you might sow this to advantage – Select such a spot as Ambrosia bifida might affect – Bear this in mind – Also you will find Ruellia heteranthæ. Nutt. & if there are ripe seeds (Torrey has none) you might, perhaps, raise this in your garden – From the look of the old Capsels, they appear to be very queer for Ruellia – Again Adieu!